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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT AGENCY  
Washington, D. C.

August, 1944

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: THE 1945 WHEAT GOAL :  
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This Year

In 1944, American farmers harvested a billion-bushel wheat crop for the second time in history. Prices for the record crop were good. Stimulated by the almost insatiable demands of war, the consumption of wheat---for food, for feed, for industrial alcohol to make synthetic rubber and explosives---had risen to all-time high levels.

The Nation and the world could be grateful for the careful planning, the hard work and the good weather which produced this abundance. Despite discouraging prospects for adequate machinery and labor, farmers planted 21 percent more acres of wheat in 1944 than in 1943.

For the first time in three years, the domestic crop of wheat probably will be large enough to cover requirements without reducing the size of our carryover next July. The U.S. carryover of wheat on July 1, 1944, dropped to 316 million bushels from the sizeable carryovers of more than 600 million bushels in 1942 and 1943. However, the 1944 carryover was above the 10-year average of 298,300,000 bushels.

With large amounts of wheat still needed to win the war and to rehabilitate the war-stricken populations, the 1944 crop is tentatively expected to be distributed about as follows: 940 million bushels for food, feed, seed, and industrial requirements at home, 120 million bushels for U.S. military and war services, and exports to our Allies, territories, and other friendly nations, and 65 million bushels for liberated peoples.

Next Year

With their record crop of 1944 in the bin or gone to market, wheat producers naturally are wondering about next year. How many acres should be planted this fall and next spring to meet the requirements for the marketing year starting July 1, 1945?

Farmers recall that it has been only two years since wheat was a surplus headache, glutting elevators and using less suitable storage space from coast to coast. It has taken only two years to eat deeply into our wheat reserves. With the war in Europe progressing satisfactorily, the question arises: Should we plant as much wheat for 1945 harvest as we did for 1944 harvest?

Our plans for 1945 farm production must allow a "cushion" for sudden changes in military fortunes until final victory is ours. More importantly, we must figure acreage on the basis of average weather and average yields with some consideration for the possibility of unfavorable weather and below-average yields.

SEP. 7 1944

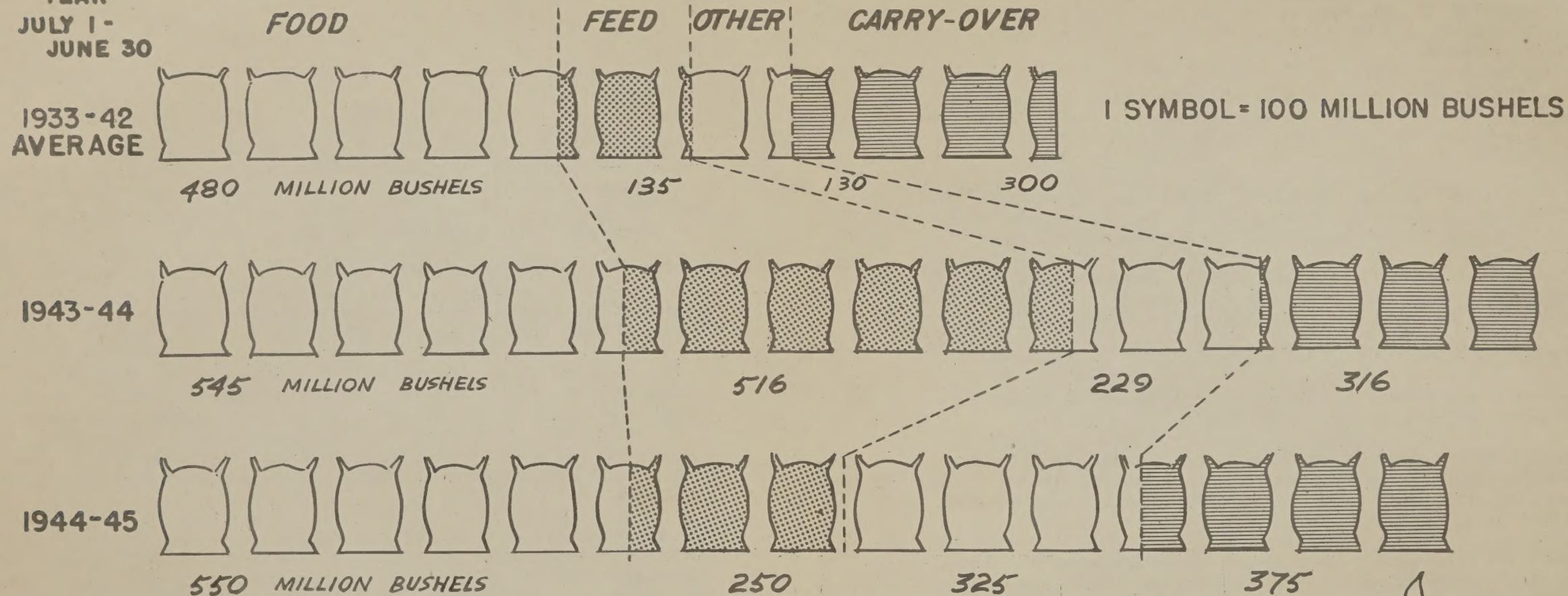






# DISTRIBUTION OF U.S. WHEAT

MARKETING  
YEAR  
JULY 1 -  
JUNE 30



\*PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES

|                 | SEEDED ACREAGE | YIELD (Bu.) | PRODUCTION (Bu.) |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1933-42 AVERAGE | 67,500,000     | 11.5        | 760,200,000      |
| 1943-44         | 55,100,000     | 15.2        | 836,298,000      |
| *1944-45        | 66,700,000     | 17.0        | 1,132,105,000    |

AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT AGENCY

AUGUST 1944





Wheat yields this year are averaging about 17 bushels to the seeded acre compared to 15.2 bushels in 1943 and only 11.5 bushels for the 10-year period, 1933-42. An average yield on the acreage planted for 1943 harvest would have produced 200 million less bushels than actually were harvested.

After surveying the probable needs of civilians, the armed forces, and other countries for U.S. wheat in 1945-46, the War Food Administration in June recommended a national wheat goal of 67 to 70 million acres to be planted for 1945 harvest.

On the basis of this information, State agricultural leaders set State goals totaling 68.5 million acres. Since June, prospects for this year's harvest have increased because of favorable growing and harvesting conditions.

The War Food Administration now recommends that the State goals be regarded as the largest acreage which should be seeded to wheat for 1945 harvest, and that plantings beyond the goals set by the States be discouraged.

#### Where Should Wheat Be Planted for 1945?

In deciding where to sow wheat, farmers again should be guided by two basic principles of balanced production and sound farming.

\*\*\*\*Wheat should not be planted on land where other urgently needed crops can be grown efficiently. Large acreages of corn, soybeans, dry beans and peas, potatoes, and other crops which compete with wheat for land again will be needed in 1945.

\*\*\*\*Land better left in permanent grass should not be plowed up for wheat. Our future welfare as farmers and as a Nation requires that we practice sound land utilization, and avoid plowing up grassland which produces more food or feed when left in grass.

#### Price Guarantees

The War Food Administration will continue in 1945 to insure adequate financial returns to farmers for their production. Congress has provided that the Government shall support wheat prices through loans for the duration of the war and for two years afterwards.

On the 1944 wheat crop, Government loans are being made to farmers at 90 percent of parity which amounts to a national loan average of \$1.35 per bushel on the farm.